IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. 10/586,283
Filing Date .... November 6, 2006
Inventor .... Kassem Ghorayeb
Group Art Unit... 2128
Examiner .... Saif A. Alhija
Attorney's Docket No. 94.0052; 09469/161002
Confirmation No. 3037
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTEGRATED RESERVOIR AND
    SURFACE FACILITY NETWORKS SIMULATIONS

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 15, 2009

To: Commissioner for Patents
        PO Box 1450
        Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Mark C. Farrell Reg. No. 45,988
        (Tel. 509-290-6316)
        Farrell Patent Law PC
        P.O. Box 142056
        Spokane, WA 99214

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2009 with a three month shortened statutory period for reply. Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests issuance of the subject application.

A **Statement of the Substance of an Examiner Interview** begins on page 3 of this Response.

A **Listing of the Claims** begins on page 4 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this Response.

- Claims 1-4 were previously pending.
- Claims 1-4 are currently amended.
- Claims 6-8 are new.
- Claims 1-4 and 6-8 are currently pending.

Statement of Substance of Examiner Interview

Under 37 CFR 1.133

A telephonic Examiner interview between Examiner Saif Alhija and Applicant's counsel, Mark Farrell, was held on February 8, 2010.

Several amendment *concepts* for Claims 1 and 2 were proposed by the Applicant, such as reciting that each simulation task can advance independently to the next synchronization step using different time steps and Newton iterations as each simulation task requires.

The Examiner suggested the possibility of amending to recite that the system or controller couples two ***different types*** of reservoir simulations, with the two simulations ***differentiated*** in the claim language. The Applicant also suggested the element of multiple reservoir simulations coupled with Applicant's controller and advancing independently or "asynchronously" through time. The Examiner did not commit to allowability without seeing specific amendments in a Response. Thus, agreement was not reached on any claim at this time.